

I am horrified to find out that the FCC is considering loosening the rules regarding how many stations a single company can own in general, and in a specific market. The results from loosening restrictions in 1996 have resulted in watered down homogeneous programming content, especially on the radio. Local programming of unique content and nature has suffered dramatically.

In addition to these concerns, the opportunity and tendency to alter media messages to coincide with business or political agendas will be dramatically increased with increased industry concentration and aggregation. The impact of irresponsible journalism will be greatly increased.

In short, the rules governing how many stations a company can own should be tightened, not loosened. Please vote responsibly, and in the public interest Today, and vote to continue to restrict the number of stations a company can own. Or delay the vote untill there has been time to have a wide public debate,- that is what democracy demands. We have just gone to war to establish a democracy in Iraq and overthrow a totalitarian regime, and yet here in the US we are continually inching towards the same type of total control of the media and therefore the way people think and vote.

Sincerly,

Hugh Macintosh
Concerned Citizen